

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 83.100, "Flood Insurance.")

Issued: February 11, 1997.

Richard W. Krimm,

Executive Associate Director, Mitigation Directorate.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket No. 96-177; RM-8853]

Radio Broadcasting Services; Galena and Baxter Springs, KS

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission, at the request of Acorn Broadcasting Company, allots Channel 282A to Galena, Kansas. See 61 FR 47471, September 9, 1996. Channel 282A can be allotted to Galena in compliance with the Commission's distance separation requirements with a site restriction of 6.5 kilometers (4.0 miles) west to avoid short-spacing conflicts with Stations KBEQ(FM), Channel 282C, Kansas City, Missouri; KBCN(FM), Channel 282C, Marshall, Arkansas; and KQMO(FM), Channel 281C3, Ash Grove, Missouri. The coordinates for Channel 282A at Galena are 37-03-24 and 94-42-11. With this action, this proceeding is terminated.

DATES: Effective March 31, 1997. The window period for filing applications will open on March 31, 1997, and close on May 1, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pam Blumenthal, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission's Report and Order, MM Docket No. 96-177, adopted February 7, 1997, and released February 14, 1997. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, NW, Washington, DC. The complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, ITS, Inc., (202) 857-3800, 2100 M Street, NW, Suite 140, Washington, DC 20037.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio broadcasting.

Part 73 of title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 73—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 73 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 154, 303, and 307.

§ 73.202 [Amended]

2. Section 73.202(b), the Table of FM Allotments under Kansas, is amended by adding Galena, Channel 282A.

Federal Communications Commission.

John A. Karousos,

Chief, Allocations Branch, Policy and Rules Division, Mass Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 97-4394 Filed 2-21-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Chapter VI

[Docket No. 970130016-7016-01; I.D. 012797F]

RIN 0648-XX80

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act; Public Comments on Fishery Management Plans and Regulations

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Policy statement.

SUMMARY: NMFS notifies the public of how public comments on Fishery Management Plans (FMPs), FMP amendments, and their implementing regulations will be handled under the procedures of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act (SFA). The intent is to ensure that the public has full opportunity for input to the fishery management decision process.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George H. Darcy, 301-713-2341.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 11, 1996, the President signed into law the SFA (Public Law 104-297), which made numerous amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*). The amendments significantly changed the process and schedules under which FMPs, FMP amendments, and most regulations are reviewed and implemented. Because of

those changes, NMFS has had to revise its procedures for handling public comments on FMPs, FMP amendments, and their implementing regulations.

Specifically, the SFA decoupled the schedule for approval/disapproval of FMPs and FMP amendments submitted by Regional Fishery Management Councils (Councils) from the schedule for publication of proposed and final rules to implement them. Because both the notice of availability (NOA) of an FMP/amendment and the proposed rule request public comments, the timing of the receipt of those comments relative to the timing of decisions regarding the FMP/amendment and associated rules has been complicated. To address these issues and to inform the public of how and when public comments will be considered, NMFS will follow the procedures outlined below.

FMPs and FMP Amendments

An NOA will be published in the Federal Register as soon as possible after transmittal of an FMP/amendment from a Council, as required by sec. 304(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. The NOA will request comments on the FMP/amendment and will alert the public that (1) public comments are being solicited on the FMP/amendment through the end of the 60-day comment period stated in the NOA; (2) a proposed rule that would implement the FMP/amendment may be published in the Federal Register for public comment, following NMFS' evaluation of the proposed rule under the Magnuson-Stevens Act procedures; and (3) public comments on the proposed rule must be received by the end of the comment period on the FMP/amendment to be considered in the approval/disapproval decision on the FMP/amendment. All comments received by the end of the comment period on the FMP/amendment, whether specifically directed to the FMP/amendment or the proposed rule, will be considered in the approval/disapproval decision; comments received after that date will not be considered in the approval/disapproval decision on the FMP/amendment. To be considered, comments must be received by close of business on the last day of the comment period established by the NOA.

Proposed Rules

If NMFS' evaluation of the proposed rule under procedures specified in sec. 304(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act determines that it is consistent with the FMP, FMP amendment, the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and other applicable laws, NMFS will publish the proposed rule with a request for public comment; the